

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS STATE 185333

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, IN, US

SUBJECT: INDIAN EMBASSY PRESS RELEASE ON SCHOLARS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY INDIAN EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, SEPT. 14: QTE THE GUIDELINES FOR FOREIGN SCHOLARS THAT HAVE BEEN LAID DOWN BY INDIAN EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES ARE BASED ON ACADEMIC CONSIDERATIONS AND APPLY TO ALL FOREIGNERS AND ARE NOT A DISCRIMINATORY MOVE AGAINST SCHOLARS COMING FROM ANY PARTICULAR COUNTRY, REPORTS THE P.T.I. ON SEPTEMBER 13.

THIS WAS AUTHORITATIVELY STATED IN NEW DELHI ON SEPTEMBER 13, FOLLOWING THE CRITICISM OF THESE GUIDELINES AS A 'POLITICALLY MOTIVATED ANTI-AMERICAN STEP' IN SOME OF THE PRESS.

THE GUIDELINES, IT WAS EXPLAINED, WERE DESIGNED TO CORRECT THE ANOMALY OF AMERICAN SCHOLARS CLAIMING INDIVIDUALLY A SPECIAL "AFFILIATE STATUS" BY WHICH THEY WOULD BE SUBJECT ONLY TO THE DISCIPLINE OF THE UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS WHICH SENT THEM OUT TO INDIA. "AFFILIATE STATUS", IT WAS POINTED OUT, IS ONLY GIVEN TO INSTITUTIONS AND NOT TO INDIVIDUALS.

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ALL THAT THE NEW GUIDELINES HAD STRIVEN TO DO WAS TO BRING

FOREIGN SCHOLARS - AMERICAN AS WELL AS OTHERS - WITHIN

THE AMBIT OF THE DISCIPLINE OF THE UNIVERSITY, OR OTHER
ACADEMIC BODY, TO WHICH THEY WERE OR SHOULD HAVE BEEN
ATTACHED.

PREVIOUSLY AMERICAN SCHOLARS HAD CLAIMED THE PRIVILEGE
OF HAVING THE RESULTS OF THEIR STUDIES EVALUATED ONLY
AT THE AMERICAN END. SOME OF THEM WERE NOT EVEN PREPARED
TO ACCEPT GUIDANCE FROM INDIAN UNIVERSITIES OR PROFESSORS.
OFTENTIMES THE EVALUATION BY THE INDIAN UNIVERSITIES
OF AMERICAN SCHOLARS' WORK IN INDIA WAS NOT REFLECTED
IN THE FINAL APPRAISAL IN AMERICA, AND THE PRESENT
GUIDELINES MERELY SEEK TO RECTIFY THIS SITUATION.
ENDQTE RUSH

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